

Soda Creek/North Butte Range Allotment Heritage Resources Report

Prepared by:

Diane C. Watts

**Almanor Ranger District
Lassen National Forest**

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Heritage Resources

Regulatory Framework

A heritage resource analysis was conducted for the re-issuance of the Soda Creek/North Butte Grazing Allotment permits. The goal of this analysis was to determine if heritage resources were present within the allotments and the effect rangeland activities are having or could potentially have on historic properties as a result of re-issuing this permit. This analysis is in conformance with regulations of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), 1966, as amended (P.L. 89-665, 80 Stat.915); the National Environmental Protection Act (1969), Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979 (ARPA), Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act (1990: P.L. 101-601), and American Indian Religious Freedom Act (1978: P.L. 95-341), and as called for by the 1996 First Amended Regional Programmatic Agreement Among The U.S.D.A. Forest Service, Pacific Southwest Region California State Historic Preservation Officer, And Advisory Council On Historic Preservation Regarding The Process For Compliance With Section 106 Of The National Historic Preservation Act For Undertakings On The National Forests Of The Pacific Southwest Region (Regional PA), and the Lassen National Forest Grazing Heritage Strategy (O'Brien 2008).

NHPA and its implementing regulations require Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on Historic Properties. The term Historic Properties refers to Class I cultural properties that have been listed or determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Protection of Historic and Cultural Properties, 36 CFR 800, outlines the set of procedures established by the NHPA that Federal Agencies follow before implementing an action that may affect Historic Properties. For the purpose of this analysis, any properties currently identified as potentially eligible or unevaluated would be considered Class II properties and are the same as eligible properties (Historic Properties). Class III properties are those sites that have been evaluated and found not eligible for listing on the NRHP. Such sites generally do not require further protection or mitigation.

Methodology for Analysis

The Lassen National Forest Land and Resource Management Plan (USDA FS 1993) objectives and Forest-wide standards and guidelines are designed to ensure protection of heritage sites. The USDA Forest Service (Region 5), the California State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) and the Advisory Council developed a standard set of guidelines for the identification, recording, and treatment of heritage resources on National Forest System lands. These guidelines are known as the Regional Programmatic Agreement (Regional PA, USDA). The Lassen National Forest (LNF) has developed a Grazing-Heritage Strategy (O'Brien 2008) that provides specific management guidelines to identify, evaluate, mitigate and protect historic properties within range allotments.

Existing Condition

Over the last thirty years, the majority of Forest system lands within the Soda Creek/North Butte range allotment have been surveyed in order to locate and record Heritage sites. Refer to Table 1 for a list of Archaeological Reconnaissance Reports (ARR) that document surveys that have taken place within the Soda Creek/North Butte Allotment. These surveys have identified one hundred and twelve sites within this allotment. Ninety-six of these sites are prehistoric resources represented primarily by lithic scatters in addition to numerous basalt quarries, many

of which extend for considerable distances. Ten historic sites were also identified which included historic roads, trails, stage stop, refuse scatters and other historic resources. Six multi-component sites were identified that had prehistoric as well as historic remains. Eleven sites identified within this allotment have been evaluated for eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Refer to Table 2 for Archaeological Site Data. In consultation with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO), four sites qualified for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and the remaining seven sites were determined ineligible for the NRHP. One hundred-one sites have not been evaluated for the NRHP and therefore, will be considered potentially eligible properties (Class II properties) and protected until eligibility determinations are completed.

Table 1--Archaeological Inventories

ARR #	ARR Title	Author
R1976050651058	Big Springs	
R1976050651063	Happy Days TS	
R1976050651154	Scott's John TS	
R1979050651147	Cirby Mdws. Add. Coverage	
R1979050651184	Selected Lassen NF	P. Duff
R1981050651144	Cherry Hill TS Add. Coverage	Larry Swan
R1982050651093	Small Salvage & Thinning Sales	Michael A. Dugas
R1984050651151	John Scott TS	Michael Dugas
R1986050651230	Castle & Lost Tom	Patrick T. McCutcheon
R1988050651073	Little Grizzley	James D. Johnston
R1988050651148	Cirby Resale	Diane C. Watts
R1988050651231	Castle TS Add.	Alex B. Atkins
R1988050651235	Kay Resale	Diane C. Watts
R1988050651238	Peacock TS ARR Addendum	Michael A. Dugas
R1990050651070	Little Bear SS	Trudy Vaughan
R1990050651076	Lost SSTS	Diane C. Watts
R1990050651223	Snowy Carr TS	Michael Dugas
R1991050651149	Humdinger SS	Darrah Roy
R1991050651153	Lookout SS	Darrah Roy
R1991050651156	Snag SS	Suzanne Lowery
R1991050651217	Philbrook SS	Michael Dugas
R1992050651061	Grizzly Valley SS	Darrah Roy
R1992050651075	Lost Lake TS	Keith A. Syda, William Shapiro
R1993050651071	Little G SSTS	Dennis L. Peebles
R1993050651142	Butte House SS	Darrah Hopper
R1996050651157	Willow & Summit TS	Doug Prather
R2005050600021	Willow Fuels Reduction Project	Cathryn L. Kent
R2001050651001	TU 1 / Lakes and Creeks	Christine Barnes
R2004050600057	Creeks DFPZ	R. Heath Browning

R2004050600070	TSI Project	Cathryn L. Kent
R2003050600002	TU-1	Rich McLaughlin
R2003050600055	Windthrow 2003	Laura Pellaton
R2009050600059	Storrie Section 110 Inventory 2009	Shannon Goshen, Adam Gutierrez

The majority of prehistoric properties within the Soda Creek/North Butte allotment are found in close proximity to creeks, at forest/meadow ecotones and on ridgetops. As noted above, the type of sites found in this area are primarily prehistoric lithic scatters and quarries. These types of sites especially when situated within the rocky terrain of this allotment are not highly susceptible to cattle damage. That said, several sites that are found in close proximity to meadows where cattle congregate will require continual monitoring and mitigation to address any adverse effects caused by range activities. Recent monitoring of prehistoric properties situated along meadow/forest ecotones has shown that damage from cattle activities can be severe. The kinds of damage observed at sites found adjacent to meadows include cow wallows, trampling, and entrenched cow trails, which cause displacement of surface artifacts as well as disturbance to the subsurface cultural deposit. Removal of surface vegetation from sites by cattle can increase surface visibility providing a high potential for looting and erosion.

Table 2--Archaeological Site Data

Site Number	Description	National Register Status
05-06-51-007	Historic	Not Eligible
217	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
218	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
219	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
221	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
223	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
224	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
228	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
233	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
234	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
238	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
239	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
249	Historic	Unevaluated
256	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
267	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
268	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
300	Prehistoric	Not Eligible
301	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
302	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
304	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
305	Prehistoric	Unevaluated

306	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
307	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
308	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
309	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
310	Historic	Eligible
311	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
312	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
313	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
315	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
316	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
316	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
317	Prehistoric	Not Eligible
318	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
327	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
386	Prehistoric	Eligible
387	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
388	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
389	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
390	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
391	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
392	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
420	Historic	Unevaluated
420	Historic	Unevaluated
427	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
428	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
432	Historic	Unevaluated
440	Historic	Unevaluated
445	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
446	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
449	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
450	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
453	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
490	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
557	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
558	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
559	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
561	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
562	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
563	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
564	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
570	Prehistoric	Not Eligible
578	Prehistoric	Eligible
579	Prehistoric	Unevaluated

580	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
582	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
583	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
584	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
585	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
598	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
599	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
600	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
601	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
602	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
632	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
633	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
638	Multi-component	Unevaluated
639	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
722	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
723	Prehistoric	Not Eligible
745	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
746	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
766	Multi-component	Not Eligible
799	Historic	Not Eligible
820	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
821	Historic	Unevaluated
825	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
826	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
827	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
828	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
836	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
838	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
839	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
846	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
847	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
900	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
944	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
945	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
984	Prehistoric	Eligible
986	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1004	Historic	Not Eligible
1012	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1014	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1016	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1017	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1037	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1078	Prehistoric	Unevaluated

1079	Multi-component	Unevaluated
1081	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1082	Prehistoric	Unevaluated
1083	Prehistoric	Unevaluated

*Site numbers start with 05-06-51-

Desired Condition

The LNF Forest Plan (LRMP 1993) acknowledges the contribution heritage resources provide to our understanding of the past and the importance of identifying, documenting, studying and preserving these resources on the Forest. The above referenced heritage resource laws and regulations, and the Forest Plan are designed to identify, document, evaluate and protect sites that are important to our understanding of past lifeways. A concerted effort has been made to survey all lands within this allotment that may have low to high intensity use by cattle and protect eligible or potentially eligible sites from cattle related impacts. As such, this project meets the desired condition for Heritage Resources.

Integrated Design Features

Historic properties identified within the Soda Creek/North Butte range allotment shall be protected from cattle and range related activities. An *historic property* is defined as a property that has been evaluated and determined eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). A property that has not been evaluated for National Register eligibility is also considered an *historic property* until an eligibility determination has been made. Four sites within this allotment have thus far been determined eligible for listing on the Register; seven sites have been determined ineligible for listing and the remaining sites (n=101) are potentially eligible for the NRHP.

Implementation of the *LNF Grazing-Heritage Strategy* will help ensure protection of historic properties through annual monitoring of sites located in medium to high cattle use areas especially those situated near springs, creeks and along meadow/forest interfaces. This Strategy will also provide a mechanism to mitigate effects found by annual condition surveys. Refer to the *Lassen National Forest Grazing-Heritage Strategy*.

Environmental Effects

Alternative 1--Proposed Action

The *proposed action* alternative provides for the use of an ***adaptive management strategy*** and associated integrated design criteria to reach the *desired condition* (DC) of the Soda Creek/North Butte range allotment and the DC of cultural resources within the allotment. The Allotment Management Plan would be revised to incorporate an adaptive management strategy which provides specific objectives, integrated design features, and monitoring and evaluation stipulations in regards to cultural resources.

Direct Effects

Over one hundred historic properties have been identified within this allotment. The potential for direct effects to known archaeological sites is low for this alternative as site locations for the

most part are known and the *LNF Grazing-Heritage Strategy* and its integrated design features set forth to protect sites, will be implemented as part of the revised allotment management plan. This strategy will require annual monitoring of sites that are within or in close proximity to areas identified as medium to high cattle use areas and mitigate any effects found during the monitoring effort. Due to these safeguards, it is not expected that the proposed action will have any direct effect on cultural resources.

Indirect Effects

Indirect effects to cultural resources from rangeland activities would be caused primarily from cattle dispersing into unexpected areas and causing effects to archaeological sites. Indirect effects are not foreseen by implementation of the proposed action.

Alternative 2--No Action

Direct and Indirect Effects

The *No Action* alternative, which is actually defined as *no grazing* and the removal of cattle on this allotment, will be to the benefit of cultural resources. No grazing will ensure the cessation of disturbance to archaeological sites caused by rangeland activities. Since activities associated with cattle grazing and rangeland activities will no longer occur, there will be no direct or indirect effects to cultural resources associated with these activities.

Alternative 3—Historic Management

Direct and Indirect Effects

Under this alternative, the *historic management* of the allotment would continue as set forth in the current term grazing permit (2001) utilizing the existing allotment management plan and operation plan. Integrated design criteria would not be part of the permit in this alternative, however, the LNF Grazing-Heritage Strategy and SRPM's would be in place, protecting sites from direct or indirect effects as discussed under the proposed action alternative. Refer to the Proposed Action discussion on direct and indirect effects

Cumulative Effects

The cumulative effects analysis boundary for Heritage resources is the allotment boundary. Historic properties are stationary resources which are protected from all project (current or future) related activities until eligibility to the National Register of Historic Places has been determined. Historic properties are located throughout the allotment and all are protected from specific rangeland projects, cattle grazing and other types of projects using *standard resource protection measures* (SRPM) as stipulated in the Regional PA and the *LNF Grazing-Heritage Strategy*.

Before the 1970's and the advent of laws protecting heritage resources, many archaeological sites incurred some level of damage from project activities. With the enactment of Federal laws in the 1970's and the Regional Programmatic Agreement for Section 106 compliance two decades later, disturbance to sites from project related causes has become the exception not the rule. Inasmuch as impacts from existing or future projects is not expected, cumulative effects should remain status quo.

Compliance with the Forest Plan and Other Regulatory Direction

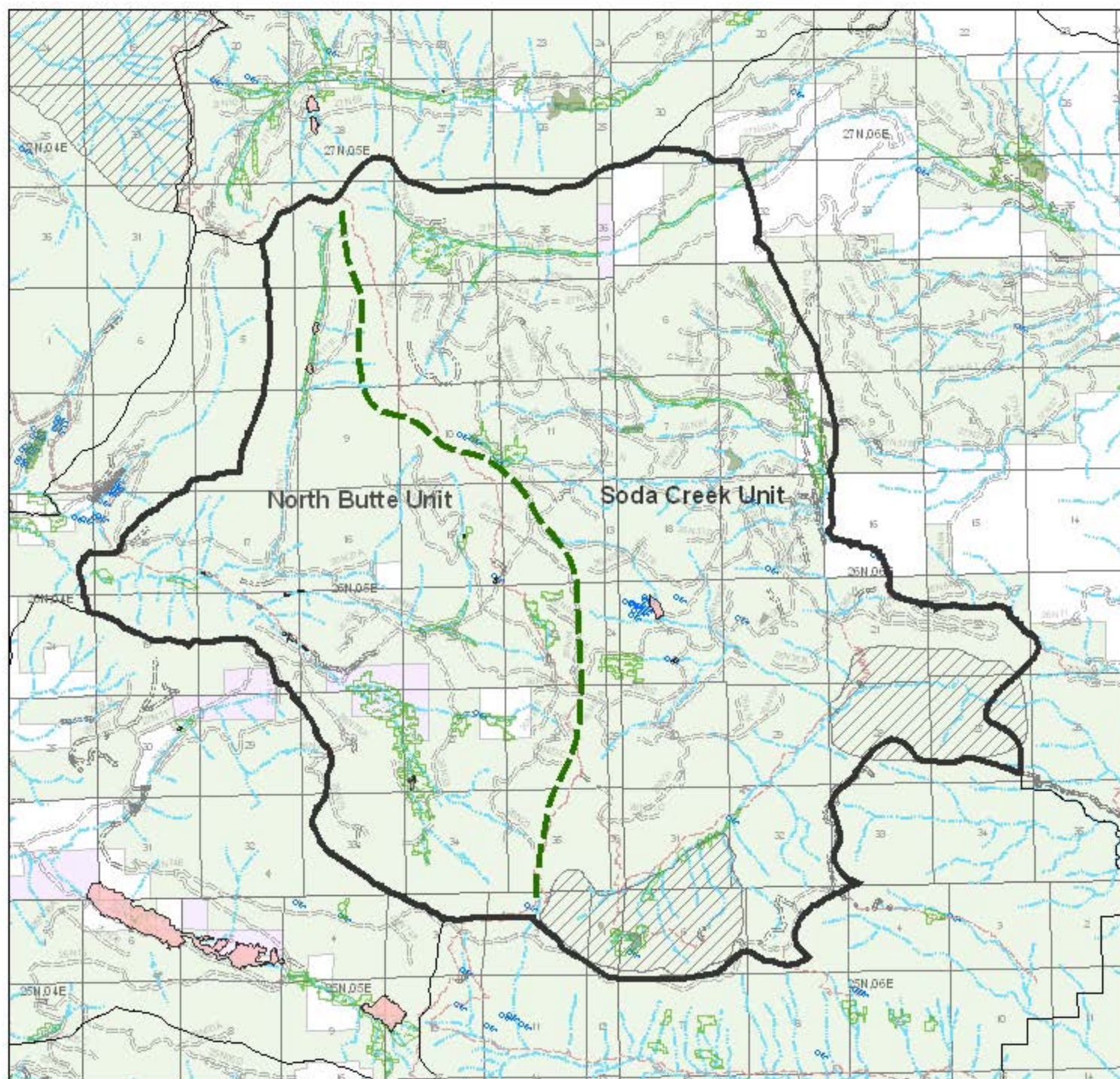
The *No Action* alternative would have a beneficial effect to historic properties in the Soda Creek/North Butte allotment and as such would be in compliance with the Forest Plan and other regulatory direction. The *Proposed Action* alternative is also in compliance with the Forest Plan and other regulatory direction. This alternative would revise the existing allotment management plan utilizing an adaptive management strategy with defined integrated design criteria as part of the new permit. The *Historic Management* alternative is also consistent with the Forest Plan and direction. The *Proposed Action* and *Historic Management* alternatives would utilize the LNF Grazing-Heritage Strategy and standard resource protection measures to meet regulatory direction (36CFR800, RPA) and the LNF Forest Plan.

References

O'Brien, Christopher

2008 *Lassen National Forest Grazing-Heritage Strategy*. On file LNF Supervisors Office,
Susanville, CA

Soda Creek/North Butte Allotment



b.a.m. 3/2/2009

Legend

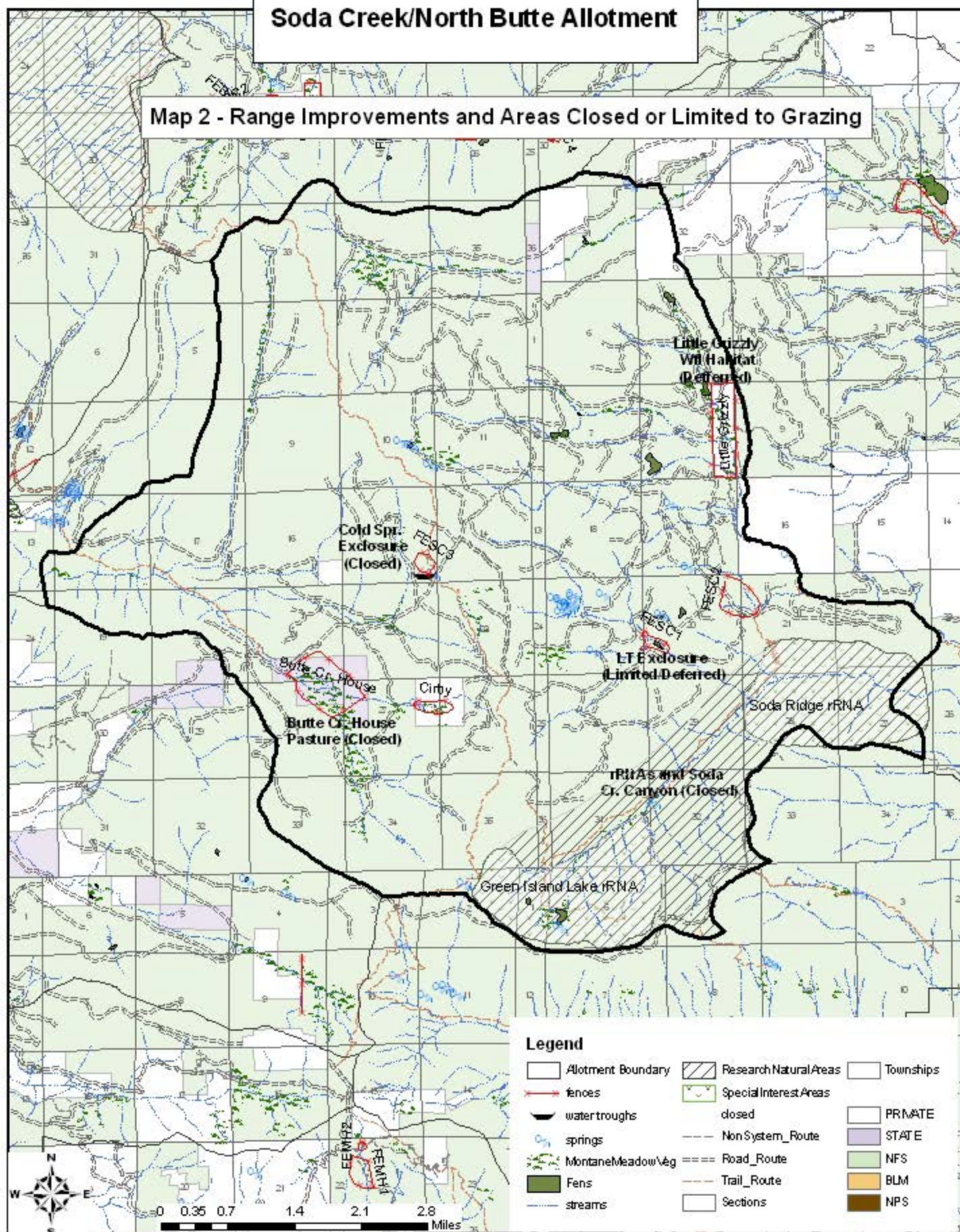
Allotment Boundary	Research Natural Areas	Streams	State
Aspen	Roads	Townships	NFS
Fens	Non System Route	Sections	BLM
Montane Meadow Veg	Trail Route	Private	NPS
springs			
Unit/division boundary			



0 0.25 0.5 1 1.5 2 Miles

Soda Creek/North Butte Allotment

Map 2 - Range Improvements and Areas Closed or Limited to Grazing



Soda Creek/North Butte Allotment

Map 3 - Key Areas

